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Fighting Malaria With Music

10.08.2007 | Fine Arts, Culture and Society, Campus and Community Touré will perform in the first of three 2007 World Rhythms Series concerts produced in partnership between the University and Cityfolk, capping a series of campus events to raise awareness about the disease.

Son of the late Malian guitarist Ali Farka Touré, the younger Touré works through the UNICEF "Fight Malaria" campaign to raise awareness about the deadly disease. Malaria is one of the most severe public health problems worldwide, causing an estimated million deaths annually.

In conjunction with Touré's performance, the University of Dayton will hold several events and lectures on the fight against malaria:

* A panel of UD students who have contracted malaria will discuss the impact of the disease on their lives from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22 in Sears Recital Hall. Films about malaria around the world, and Touré and his father will also be shown.

* Internationally recognized malaria researcher and president of the newly-created European Research Council, Fotis Kafatos will speak 4:30 p.m. Friday Oct. 26 in Science Center 114. Kafatos is also chair of the department of immunogenomics at Imperial College London, where he studies the malaria-carrying mosquito.

* Throughout the week, UD student-athletes will be working to promote Nothing but Nets, a nonprofit organization using a grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, through fundraising efforts and purchase of anti-malaria bed nets.

Touré's recently released debut album has met with critical success and he was featured this summer in a National Geographic Live! Concert in California. He has created his own version of the acoustic, guitar-driven blues style pioneered by his father who was called "Africa's greatest bluesman."

Tickets for Touré's concert are \$18 for the public; for \$16 UD faculty, staff and alumni; and \$9 for students. For tickets, call the UD box office at 937-229-2545.

Hear Vieux Farka Touré's music at <http://www.vieuxfarkatoure.com>.